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EXAMINER

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/607,802	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YEH ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> BRADFORD F. FRITZ	<b>Art Unit</b> 2442	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-21 and 23-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-21 and 23-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments, filed 5/03/2010, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-11, 13-21, and 23-76 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Roseman (6,608,636), Christofferson et al. (7,006,616), Hales et al. (6,288,739), Jiang (6,167,432), and Pizano et al. (6,105,055),.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11, 13-21, and 23-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roseman (6,608,636) in view of Christofferson et al. (7,006,616), hereinafter referred to as Christofferson, in view of Hales et al. (6,288,739), hereinafter referred to as Hales, in view of Jiang (6,167,432), further in view of Pizano et al. (6,105,055), hereinafter referred to as Pizano.

4. Regarding claim 1, Roseman disclosed configuring a member using one or more commands to result in displaying a member icon on a computer screen (column 1, lines 50-64, column 12, lines 29-45, Fig. 9); and storing the configuration for the member into

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a file (column 1, lines 50-64 and column 12, lines 29-45); assigning the member as a member administrator using one or more commands (column 1, lines 50-64 and column 12, lines 29-45); and allowing the member administrator to implement a plurality of first set functions (column 1, lines 50-64 and column 12, lines 29-45), wherein said first set functions include at least one of a function for implementing Whisper functionality (column 9, lines 15-25), a function for implementing Create Table functionality (column 7, lines 30-40), and a function for implementing Create Avatar functionality (column 7, lines 30-40).

However, Roseman does not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference with all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the system Roseman because both are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as

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taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

However, the combination above does not explicitly teach wherein the member administrator has an ability grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of the plurality of first set functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants. Pizano teaches wherein the member administrator has an ability grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of the plurality of first set functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants (column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Pizano in the combination above in order to allow a conference administrator more control by providing the ability to selectively set different privilege levels for different participants.

5. Regarding claim 2, Pizano disclosed wherein the step of configuring comprises inputting definition and identification information (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5), and wherein the member administrator has a second ability to grant the first set of the participants a second right to have the capabilities of creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference while withholding the second right from the second set of the participants (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5).

6. Regarding claim 3, Roseman disclosed wherein the step of storing comprises storing the member configuration in a database (column 1, lines 50-64 and column 12, lines 29-45) and wherein the member administrator has the capability to record,

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transcribe and translate in real time both the Avatar conference and the conference (column 1, lines 50-64 and column 12, lines 29-45).

7. Regarding claim 4, Roseman disclosed assigning the member as a member administrator using one or more commands (column 1, lines 50-64 and column 12, lines 29-45); creating a conference room by the member administrator using one or more commands (column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9); connecting to a server by the member administrator to allow other members to join the conference room using one or more commands (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9); and selecting certain of the other members by the member administrator to be conference participants in the conference room with the member administrator by using one or more commands (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60); and commencing communication in the conference room by the member administrator so that the selected certain other members and member administrator are conference participants using one or more commands (column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

8. Regarding claims 5 and 30, Roseman disclosed wherein the commands are graphical user interface (GUI) commands (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

9. Regarding claims 6, 7, 8, and 9 Roseman disclosed wherein the step of creating includes the member administrator selecting a first set secondary function (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9), which is among other first set secondary functions (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

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10. Regarding claims 10, 15, 31, 36, and 74 Roseman disclosed wherein the step of connecting allows the member administrator to use a first set dialing function and first set tertiary functions (Phone, Location, IP Address) to access first set tertiary function first elements public branch exchange (PBX) or voice internet protocol (VoIP) gateway (column 3, lines 1-20).

11. Regarding claims 11 and 32, Roseman disclosed wherein the step of commencing communication consists of the member administrator selecting a first set secondary function (Room Commence) to allow communication between the selected certain other members and member administrator in the conference room (column 7, lines 30-60 and column 12, lines 29-45).

12. Regarding claims 13 and 34, Roseman disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first set functions to mute the member administrator (column 7, lines 30-60 and column 9, lines 15-30), whereas the selected certain other members as conference participants will not be able to hear the member administrator but the member administrator will be able to hear the selected certain other members as conference participants (column 7, lines 30-60 and column 9, lines 15-30).

13. Regarding claims 14 and 35, Roseman disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first set functions (Whisper) to whisper to a particular selected certain other member (column 7, lines 30-60 and column 9, lines 15-30), whereas the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member will be able to communicate with each other without other non-particular

selected certain other members as conference participants hearing them (column 7, lines 30-60 and column 9, lines 15-30).

14. Regarding claims 16 and 37, Roseman disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first set functions in order to create a table and select itself and a particular selected certain other member as conference participant to invite the particular selected certain other member as conference participant to a table session discussion (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

15. Regarding claims 17 and 38, Roseman disclosed wherein the particular selected certain other member may accept, deny, or block the invitation from the member administrator to a table session discussion (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

16. Regarding claims 18 and 39, Roseman disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member accepts the table invitation (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9), the administrator and the particular selected certain other member may communicate between themselves in the separate table discussion and no other non-particular selected certain other member as conference participant in the conference can hear the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member and the particular selected certain other member and member administrator cannot hear the conference (column 9, lines 15-30).

17. Regarding claims 19 and 40, Roseman disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member accepts the table invitation (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9), the member administrator and the particular selected

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certain other member can communicate between themselves in the separate table discussion and no other non-particular selected certain other member as conference participant in the conference can hear the member administrator and the particular selected certain other member but the particular selected certain other member and member administrator can hear and communicate with the conference (column 9, lines 15-30).

18. Regarding claim 20, Roseman disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member denies when invited to the table session, the member administrator is notified of such denial and the particular selected certain other member is not entered in the table session discussion (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 6, lines 10-30).

19. Regarding claim 21, Roseman disclosed wherein when the particular selected certain other member blocks the table invitation (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 6, lines 10-30), the member administrator is notified of such block and is blocked, until unblocked by the particular selected certain other member, from sending table invites to the particular selected certain other member and the particular selected certain other member is not entered in the table session discussion (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 6, lines 10-30).

20. Regarding claims 23, 27, 44, and 48, Roseman disclosed wherein the bridge function consists of a one way bridge, a two way bridge and an amway bridge (column 3, lines 1-20 and column 7, lines 30-60, Fig. 9).

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21. Regarding claims 24-26 and 45-47, Roseman disclosed wherein the one way bridge allows the member administrator and selected certain other members as conference participants in the avatar conference to hear the selected certain other members as conference participants of the conference (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60, Fig. 9).

22. Regarding claim 28, Jiang disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first functions (Quit) to adjourn the conference after the selected certain other members as conference participants have vacated the conference room (column 3, lines 19-45, and Figs. 3-5).

23. Regarding claim 29, Roseman disclosed connecting to a server by the member to join a conference room using one or more commands (column 7, lines 30-60, Fig. 9); waiting for a member administrator to select the member and commence communication in the conference room so that the selected member is a conference participant by using one or more commands (column 7, lines 30-60, Fig. 9); and engaging in conversation in the conference room which is comprised of the selected member and member administrator as conference participants using one or more commands (column 7, lines 30-60, Fig. 9).

24. Regarding claim 33, Roseman disclosed wherein the member administrator has a plurality of first set functions (Admin, Mute, Whisper, Dial, Create Table, Create Avatar, Quit) available (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 9, lines 10-30).

25. Regarding claim 41, Roseman disclosed wherein when the another selected member or member administrator denies when invited to the table session (column 3,

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lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9), the selected member is notified of such denial and the another selected member or member administrator is not entered in the table session discussion (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

26. Regarding claim 42, Roseman disclosed wherein when the another selected member or member administrator blocks when invited to the table session, the selected member is notified of such block and is blocked (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9), until unblocked by the another selected member or member administrator, from sending table invites to the another selected member or member administrator and the another selected member or member administrator is not entered in the table session discussion (column 3, lines 20-60 and column 7, lines 30-60 and Fig. 9).

27. Regarding claim 43, Roseman disclosed wherein the member administrator may select one of the first functions to create an avatar conference where an incarnation of the member administrator will reside as the administrator in the avatar conference (column 7, lines 30-60), with all the capabilities the member administrator has in the conference, with the addition of a bridge function which may bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 3, lines 1-20 and column 7, lines 30-60, Fig. 9).

28. Regarding claim 49, Jiang disclosed wherein the selected member may quit at any time, such that afterwards, the selected member will not be a conference participant and not able to communicate with other selected members as conference participants (column 3, lines 19-45, and Figs. 3-5).

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29. Regarding claims 50, Roseman disclosed a client network (column 3, lines 1-20); and a service provider network (column 3, lines 1-20), wherein the client network transmits to the service provider network connection information and a function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60), further characterized in that the service provider network operates on the connection information and function request to perform a specific operation (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60), wherein the specific operation includes allowing Whisper functionality (column 9, lines 15-25), Create Table functionality (column 7, lines 30-40), and Create Avatar functionality to be performed (column 7, lines 30-40).

However, Roseman does not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65

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and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Roseman because both are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

However, even though the combination above teaches the various functions can be available to conference participants, the combination does not explicitly teach that the member administrator has the ability to grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of those functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants. Pizano teaches that the member administrator has the ability to grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of those functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants (column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Pizano in the combination above in order to allow a conference administrator more control by providing the ability to selectively set different privilege levels for different participants.

30. Regarding claims 51 and 57, Roseman disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted between the client network and the service provider network over a wide area network (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60).

31. Regarding claims 52, 58, and 68, Roseman disclosed wherein the wide area network is a public internet (column 3, lines 1-20).

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32. Regarding claim 53, Roseman disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted over a computer telephone integration (CTI) link and public branch exchange (PBX) (column 3, lines 1-20).

33. Regarding claims 54 and 61, Roseman disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted over at least part of the client provider network on a serial link (column 3, lines 1-20).

34. Regarding claim 55 and 62, Roseman disclosed wherein the connection information and function request is transmitted over at least part of the service provider network on a serial link (column 1, lines 35-40, column 3, lines 1-20).

35. Regarding claims 56, Roseman disclosed a client network (column 3, lines 1-20) and a service provider network (column 3, lines 1-20), wherein the client network transmits to the service provider network connection information and a function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60), further characterized in that the service provider network operates on the connection information and function request to perform a specific operation (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60), wherein the specific operation includes allowing a Table conference session, and Avatar session to be implemented. Roseman teaches wherein the specific operation includes allowing a Table conference session (column 7, lines 30-40), and Avatar session to be implemented (column 7, lines 30-40).

However, Roseman does not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a

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subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the systems of Roseman because both are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It

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would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

However, even though the combination above teaches the various functions can be available to conference participants, the combination does not explicitly teach that the member administrator has the ability to grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of those functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants. Pizano teaches that the member administrator has the ability to grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of those functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants (column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

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time of the invention to include the features as taught by Pizano in the combination above in order to allow a conference administrator more control by providing the ability to selectively set different privilege levels for different participants.

36. Regarding claims 59 and 75, Roseman disclosed wherein the connection information is transmitted over a network layer and central server (column 3, lines 1-20).

37. Regarding claim 60, Roseman disclosed wherein the function request is transmitted over a computer telephone integration (CTI) link and voice internet protocol (VoIP) Gateway (column 3, lines 1-20).

38. Regarding claim 63, Roseman disclosed a controller for generating connection information and function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); an interface for receiving and operating on the connection information and function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); an application programming interface (API) for controlling hardware (column 3, lines 1-20); and a computer telephony integration (CTI) unit for hosting software that communicates with the hardware (column 3, lines 1-20); and a service provider network comprising: a conference server for receiving and executing the connection information and function request for allowing Whisper functionality, Create Table functionality, and Create Avatar functionality to be performed (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 9, lines 15-30); and a wide area network coupling the client network to the service provider network for allowing communication between the client network and the service provider network (column 3, lines 1-20), a conference server for receiving and executing the connection information and function request for allowing Whisper functionality (column 9, lines 15-25), Create Table

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functionality (column 7, lines 30-40), and Create Avatar functionality to be performed (column 7, lines 30-40).

However, Roseman does not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the system Roseman because both are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other

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conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

However, even though the combination above teaches the various functions can be available to conference participants, the combination does not explicitly teach that the member administrator has the ability to grant a first set of the participants a right to

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implement at least one of those functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants. Pizano teaches that the member administrator has the ability to grant a first set of the participants a right to implement at least one of those functions while withholding the right from a second set of the participants (column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Pizano in the combination above in order to allow a conference administrator more control by providing the ability to selectively set different privilege levels for different participants.

39. Regarding claims 64-66, Roseman disclosed a client network comprising: a controller for generating connection information and function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); an interface for receiving and operating on the connection information and function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); an application programming interface (API) for controlling hardware; and a computer telephony integration (CTI) unit for hosting software that communicates with the hardware; and a service provider network comprising: a conference server for receiving and executing the connection information and function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); and a wide area network coupling the client network to the service provider network for allowing communication between the client network and the service provider network (column 3, lines 1-20).

40. Regarding claim 67, Roseman disclosed wherein the conference server transmits data to the client network (column 3, lines 1-20)

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41. Regarding claim 69, Roseman disclosed a protocol converter coupled to the call management unit for converting between a first transmission format and a second transmission format (column 3, lines 1-20).

42. Regarding claims 70 and 76, Roseman disclosed a public branch exchange and voice internet protocol (VoIP) gateway coupled to the client network and service provider network for transmitting signals between the client network and service provider network (column 3, lines 1-20).

43. Regarding claim 71, Roseman disclosed generating at the client network connection information and a function request to control a conference (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); transmitting to the service provider network the connection information and function request (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); authorizing at the service provider network the client network connection information (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); signaling the authorization information back to the client network (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60); and allowing at least one of a Table conference session and an Avatar conference session to be created via the client network in response to successfully authorizing the client network connection information (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60), allowing at least one of a Table conference session and an Avatar conference session to be created via the client network (column 7, lines 30-40).

However, Roseman does not explicitly teach wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference, wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a

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subset of participants in the conference, and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference. Christofferson teaches wherein said Create Avatar functionality includes facilitating creation of an avatar conference being conducted simultaneously with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), wherein participants of the Avatar conference are a subset of participants in the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22), and wherein an incarnation of the member administrator resides as the administrator in the avatar conference in addition of a bridge function that can selectively bridge the avatar conference with the conference (column 16, lines 33-65 and column 13, lines 9-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Christofferson in the system Roseman because all are from the same field of endeavor of conferencing and in order to bridge an audio conference with a separate visual chat room conference (column 16, lines 33-65).

However, the references do not explicitly teach the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference. Hales teaches the administrator of one conference having all the capabilities that the member administrator has in the other conference (column 14, lines 19-30), and wherein the participants of one conference must be a subset of participants in the other conference (column 14, lines 25-55 and Fig. 9). It

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would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Hales with the others above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a higher level of control for multiple conferees and conferences, and also to allow user to simultaneously participate and manage separate conferences (column 1, lines 40-60).

However, the combination does not explicitly teach that the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference. Jiang teaches a conference system wherein the capabilities of the administrator includes creating, controlling, naming, adjourning and having a password for the conference (column 3, lines 19-45 and Figs. 3-5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the features as taught by Jiang in the combination above because all are from the same field of endeavor and in order to provide a user with various functions which aid in administering the conference.

44. Regarding claim 72, Roseman disclosed barring the function request at the service provider network (column 3, lines 1-40).

45. Regarding claim 73, Roseman disclosed implementing the function request at the service provider network (column 3, lines 20-40 and column 7, lines 30-60).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRADFORD F. FRITZ whose telephone number is (571)272-3860. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/B. F. F./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2442

/KEVIN BATES/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456